

Literature

Here are some books you may want to use in your classroom. Click on the links to read reviews before you decide which are right for you!

Elementary:

- Arnosky, Jim. [Crinkleroot's guide to knowing the trees](#). New York: Bradbury Press, 1992.
 - Use this as a tool to discuss different ways to identify trees. You can do this through different types of bark and leaves. These differences can be linked to the differences we have with each other.
 - Bash, Barbara. [In the heart of the village](#). San Francisco: Sierra Club Books for Children, 1996.
 - This book takes place in India. It is centered around a banyan, which is a tree with many trunks. It is here that many animals find food and shelter, and many people find conversation and life.
 - Bash, Barbara. [Tree of life: the world of the african baobab](#). Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data, 1989.
 - Follow the life cycle of a tree found in the African savannah. What animals do you think this tree supports?
 - This book is appropriate for a read aloud. It leaves many opportunities for questioning and discussion.
 - Bulla, Clyde. [A tree is a plant](#). New York: HarperCollins, 2001.
 - This book begins by explaining that trees are the biggest plants that you can find. It describes an apple tree and asks readers if they know what tree they are talking about. Following student guesses, the next pages explain how trees grow, and it follows this apple tree through all of the seasons. A great read aloud for lower elementary.
 - Coombes, Allen J. [Trees](#). New York: Dorling Kindersley, 2002.
 - This book is non-fiction. It is from the Eyewitness series.
 - Chevallier, Chiara. [The secret life of trees](#). New York: DK Pub. 1999.
 - Eyewitness readers-level 2. This book gives details about the parts of trees and the organisms that live inside of them.
 - Florian, Douglas. [Poetrees](#). New York: Beach Lane Books, 2010.
 - This is a collection of poems about trees.
 - Gibbons, Gail. [Tell me, tree: all about trees for kids](#). Boston: Little, Brown, 2002.
 - This book features a section on how children can make their own tree identification book. It names a tree, shows a drawing of the tree, a single leaf, and a close up of its bark. Kids can do this by identifying trees they see at home or in the schoolyard. They can then draw the tree, do leaf pressings, and bark rubbings.
 - Hiscock, Bruce. [The Big Tree](#). New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 2001.
 - A mix of science and social studies. Follow a tree and history from.
 - Lauber, Patricia. [Be a friend to trees](#). New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers, 1994.
 - Use this book to discuss the importance of trees. They are sources of food, oxygen, and other essential needs. It also gives kids the tools for reducing the use of trees.
- Martin, Jacqueline B. [Button, bucket, sky](#). Minneapolis: Carolrhonda Books, 1998.
 - Annie Livemore collects acorns with her cat and two friends. They take care of them until they are ready to be planted. This book contains instructions on how to grow an oak tree from an acorn.

- Maestro, Betsy. [*Why do leaves change color?*](#) New York: HarperCollins, 1994.
 - This book explains the process of color changing leaves, and of falling leaves. It also includes simple activities and other resources.
- McMillan, Bruce. [*How the ladies stopped the wind*](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2007.
 - A village in Iceland has winds that make life difficult for the people living there. A group of women plant trees in hopes of breaking the wind. Before they can plant these trees they need to find ways to keep their sheep from eating their saplings.
- MeEvory, Paul. [*Trees*](#). Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publishers, 2003.
 - This book is non-fiction. It covers different types of trees, trees during different seasons, and other facts about trees.
- Muldrow, Diane. [*We planted a tree*](#). New York: Golden Books, 2010.
 - This book depicts the benefits of planting a single tree.
- Pfeffer, Wendy. [*A log's life*](#). Simon & Schuster, 1997.
 - This book goes into the life of a fallen oak tree. It goes into the life cycle of the tree and its importance to the environment.
- Rand, Gloria. [*Fighting for the forest*](#). New York: Holt, 1999.
 - While in an ancient forest, a boy and his father find trees that are going to be cut down. They try to save the trees. This book includes information on how to find and explore ancient forests.
- Rosenberry, Vera. [*The growing-up tree*](#). New York: Holiday House 2003.
 - Alfred's mother planted an apple tree when he was a baby. Watch it grow as he does.
- Sayre, April P. [*Trout are made of trees*](#). Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2008.
 - Follow leaves through the food chain. An expansion page gives in-depth information about the lifecycle of a trout. Believe it or not, trees play a big part in keeping streams and rivers clean and cool so the trout can live there. This book also has information about adopting a stream, and other resources.
- Winter, Jeanette. [*Wangari's trees of peace: a true story from Africa*](#). Orlando: Harcourt, 2008.
 - This is the story of Wangari Maathai. She is an environmentalist, and she is a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.
 - Wangari grew up under an umbrella of green trees. After receiving a scholarship to study in America, she leaves for six years. When she returns the trees are gone. After standing up to village/government men, Wangari spreads word that trees are important, and the green umbrella returns.
- [*Firefly Encyclopedia of trees*](#). Buffalo, New York: Firefly Books, 2005.

Middle Level- High School:

- Cassie, Brian. [*National Audubon Society first field guide: trees*](#). New York: Scholastic, 1999.
 - This provides a visual guide to the natural science of trees. It also has a field guide to trees that are found in the United States and Canada.
- Johnson, Rebecca. [*A walk in the deciduous forest*](#). Minneapolis: Learner Publications Company, 2001.
 - Take a journey through a forest of trees that lose their leaves in the fall. See how the animals and the plants in this forest depend on each other for survival.
 - Grades 3-5
- Patent, Dorothy. [*Plants on the trail with Lewis and Clark*](#). New York: Clarion Books, 2003.
 - This book a chapter book with lots of pictures. It takes you on a journey through the western United States. The focus is on the plants that Lewis and Clark catalogued. Chapter two focuses on the importance of trees during their exhibition.
- Singer, Marilyn. [*What stinks?*](#) Plain City, OH: Darby Creek Pub. 2006.
 - This is a fun book that explains why certain animals, insects, and trees smell the way they do.
- Wigger, Raymond. *A picture guide to tree leaves*. New York: Franklin Watts, 1991.
 - This book provides full-color photos of the leaves found on many common tree species found in North America.

Teachers & Parents:

- Arnosky, Jim. [*Field trips: bug hunting, animal tracking, bird watching, shore walking*](#). New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2002.
 - Take your students outside! Here is a guide to fun learning opportunities outside of the classroom.
- Butzow, Carol. [*Science through children's Literature: and integrated approach*](#). Englewood, Colorado: Teacher Ideas Press, 2000.
- Gardner, Robert. [*Science project ideas about trees*](#). Springfield, NJ: Enslow Publishers, c1997
- Gillespie, John Thomas. [*Best books for middle school and junior high readers, grades 6-9*](#). Westport: Libraries Unlimited, 2004.
- Martin, Laura. *Nature's art box*. North Adams, MA: Storey Books, 2003.
- McCormick, Rosie. [*Plants & art activities*](#). New York: Crabtree Publishing Company, 2002.
- Monaghan, Kimberly. *Organic crafts, 75 earth-friendly art activities*. Chicago, Il: Chicago Review Press, 2007.